coming their problems. A Centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation schemes is being implemented in 33 thermal stations in the country to improve their performance. Assistance is also bein gprovided to the State Electricity Boards in matter such as training of power sector personnel, procuring of spare parts from foreign and indigenous sources, and in the supply of requisite quality and quantity of coal. These measures have helped in increasing the all India PLF of thermal stations from 44.2 per cent during 1980-81 to 53.2 per cent in 1986-87.

**Prices of medicines**

74. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been considering to decontrol the prices of some more medicines; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that prices of medicines went up to 600 per cent during the last few years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to remove overall profitability control on Drug Industry; and

(d) whether Government have decided to increase mark up on essential medicines; if so, how the interest of the poor consumer of medicines by way of making available medicines at reasonable prices and in adequate quantities is to be served?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a), (c) and (d) Details are contained in the booklet entitled "Measures for rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of drugs and pharmaceutical Industry in India", copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) There is no control or monitoring on prices of drugs and formulations not falling within Categories I, II and III of the existing DPCO. Hence, it s not possible to supply this information.

**Drugs under delicensing scheme**

75. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have laid down certain criteria on which drugs are to be identified for Delicensing Scheme;

(b) what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the existing list will be revised according to announced criteria; and

(d) when the earlier list was announced last and what is the total capacity allowed for each drug under delicensing scheme, the names of drugs for which capacities have been created; and investments made alongwith production of each drug upto 31st March, 1987?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The criteria for de-licensing are as follows:—

(i) Bulk drugs whose imports are allowed on OGL.

(ii) Bulk drugs whose production is limited to three producers or less in the organised sector.

(iii) Bulk drugs whose formulations are of essential and mass consumption nature.